

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture texts: **Acts 12:18-25; John 9:1-41.**
- B. The sermon title is borrowed from the familiar phrase, "Give credit where credit is due."
- C. Xians are to glorify God in (1Pet. 4:11).
- D. In Acts 12:18-25 Herod refused to give glory (praise or credit) to God as was struck down for it. The church continued to grow.
- E. This morning we shall look at the story of John 9 and how we sometimes do not praise as we should and why.

I. **SOMETIMES NO PRAISE OR CREDIT IS NECESSARY.**

- A. Scripture text: John 9:1-5.
- B. The apostles wanted to put the blame somewhere, but Jesus said that there was no blame to be placed at all. No giving of negative credit to the man, the parents, or Satan.
- C. We must be careful when we place the blame on someone for a set of circumstances over which they had no or very little control.
- D. Remember the saying, "Don't criticize until you have walked a mile in his footsteps." Passing judgment too quickly is easily defined as prejudice.
- E. Many things happen in life, different kinds of tragedies, but let us not be too quick to assign credit or blame for the wrong. It may not be any one's fault.

II. **SOMETIMES INSTEAD OF SINCERE PRAISE, WE LOOK FOR FLAWS.**

- A. Scripture text: John 9:6 (Jesus works the miracle).
- B. Scripture text: John 9:13-17.
- C. Some of the Pharisees were more concerned about it being the Sabbath and the healing (or work) performed, than they were of recognizing the great miracle taking place.
- D. They fell into the trap of majoring in minors and minoring in majors.
 - 1. Neglecting the weightier matters (Mt. 23:23).
 - 2. Making void the word by human traditions (Mt. 15:6).
- E. Sometimes when others prosper (materially and spiritually) we tend to nit-pick instead of rejoicing with those who rejoice.
- F. Let us not lose sight of what is important by getting off on tangents.

III. **SOMETIMES BECAUSE OF PERSECUTION WE FAIL TO GIVE PRAISE AT ALL.**

- A. Scripture text: John 9:18-23.
- B. The parents of the man born blind were afraid of what might happen to them if they told the truth.
- C. Sometimes we also give greater value to the authority and displeasure of men than to the possible displeasure of God.
- D. John says that the cowardly will, be in the lake of fire with all of the other sinners (Rev. 21:8).
- E. Jesus has told us repeatedly, "Fear not" (Rev. 1:17-18).

IV. **WE ARE TO PRAISE BECAUSE OF WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR US.**

- A. Scripture text: John 9:35-41.
- B. The young man knew what had happened to him. And even though he did not know who it was he was ready to give praise anyway.
- C. We know that through Jesus God meets all of our needs (Phil. 1:19).
- D. We are who we are, because of what Christ has done (1Cor. 15:10).

- E We have a great church not because of a great preacher, or great elders, or great members, but because of a great Christ.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Scripture text: John 9:24-34.
- B. God through Christ always has a hand in things that are good.
- C. All credit (praise) the Father who blesses with all spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3).
- D. Let us:
 - 1. Not be too quick to blame and give negative credit unnecessarily.
 - 2. Not be too critical when good things happen to others.
 - 3. Not be too weak to stand against persecution for doing good.
 - 4. Not to prideful to give all glory and praise to God and Christ.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring-Xians.